



**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**  
OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS  
Washington, D.C. 20230

September 23, 2019

Emma Best  
MuckRock News  
DEPT MR 73720 411A Highland Ave  
Somerville, MA 02144

**Re: FOIA Request DOC-NOAA-2019-001391**

Good afternoon,

This letter is in response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request which was received by our office on 05/30/2019, in which you requested:

*I seek any and all documents in the agency's possession that pertain to the WikiLeaks website or organization from January 2006 to the present date, including but not limited to emails, memos, notes, briefings, reports and other documents related to, mentioning or generated as a result of:*

- \* guidance and instructions for employees regarding visiting the website or otherwise reading or learning about it in the news*
- \* internal reactions to the website's existence and disclosures*
- \* damage reports regarding the website and its disclosures*
- \* efforts to identify, investigate and/or mitigate potential leaks to the website*
- \* efforts to identify, investigate and/or mitigate potential unauthorized viewing of the website or news reports analyzing it and/or its contents*

After searching our files we were unable to locate any records that are responsive to your request.

You have the right to file an administrative appeal if you are not satisfied with our response to your FOIA request. All appeals should include a statement of the reasons why you believe the FOIA response was not satisfactory. An appeal based on documents in this release must be received within 90 calendar days of the date of this response letter at the following address:

Assistant General Counsel for Employment, Litigation, and Information  
U.S. Department of Commerce Room 5896  
1401 Constitution Ave. NW  
Washington, DC 20230



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An appeal may also be sent by email to [FOIAAppeals@doc.gov](mailto:FOIAAppeals@doc.gov) or by FOIAonline at <https://foiaonline.gov>.

For your appeal to be complete, it must include the following items:

- a copy of the original request,
- our response to your request,
- a statement explaining why the withheld records should be made available, and why the denial of the records was in error.
- "Freedom of Information Act Appeal" must appear on your appeal letter. It should also be written on your envelope, email subject line, or your fax cover sheet.

FOIA appeals posted to the email box, FOIAonline, or Office after normal business hours will be deemed received on the next business day. If the 90th calendar day for submitting an appeal falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal public holiday, an appeal received by 5:00 p.m., Eastern Time, the next business day will be deemed timely.

FOIA grants requesters the right to challenge an agency's final action in federal court. Before doing so, an adjudication of an administrative appeal is ordinarily required.

The Office of Government Information Services (OGIS), an office created within the National Archives and Records Administration, offers free mediation services to FOIA requesters. They may be contacted in any of the following ways:

Office of Government Information Services  
National Archives and Records Administration  
Room 2510  
8601 Adelphi Road  
College Park, MD 20740-6001

Email: [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov)

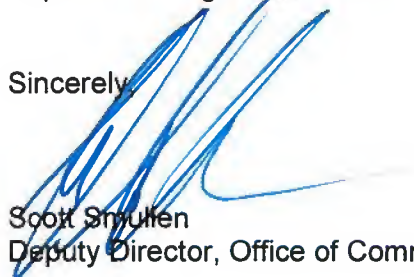
Phone: 301-837-1996

Fax: 301-837-0348

Toll-free: 1-877-684-6448

If you have questions regarding this correspondence please contact Althea Lee at [foia@noaa.gov](mailto:foia@noaa.gov) or the NOAA FOIA Public Liaison Ed Kearns at (828) 273-1998. Please refer to your FOIA request tracking number DOC-NOAA-2019-001391 when contacting us.

Sincerely,



Scott Smullen  
Deputy Director, Office of Communications